GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4307
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2007
PRODUCTION AND DEMAND OF FOODGRINS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the production and demand of various foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, the break-up thereof during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the foodgrains required for various welfare schemes of the Government alongwith its actual procurement made during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken and assistance provides for increasing the production of those foodgrains which are in short supply?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The demand projections of foodgrains for the Tenth Plan Period (2002-03 to 2006-07) were made by a Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission. Table below gives the demand, based on the normative approach, and production of various foodgrains in the country during the period 2003-04 to 2006-07:

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Demand			Production		
	Cereals	Pulses	Foodgrains	Cereals	Pulses	Foodgrains
2003-04	192.53	16.74	209.27	198.28	14.91	213.19
2004-05	196.18	17.06	213.24	185.23	13.13	198.36
2005-06	199.91	17.38	217.29	195.20	13.39	208.60
2006-07	203.71	17.71	221.42	197.67	14.10	211.78

3rd advance estimates as on 04.04.2007

(c): Table below gives the offtake of foodgrains from the central pool for welfare schemes and procurement made from 2003-04 to 2006-07 (financial year wise):

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Offtake of foodgrains for welfare schemes	Procurement
2003-04	13.50	37.23
2004-05	10.61	41.59
2005-06	9.75	42.63
2006-07	4.13 (upto January 2007)	33.53 (upto February 2007)

Note: The offtake figures are provisional.

(d): To increase cereals production in the country, Centrally Sponsored Schemes `Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), ICDP-Wheat and ICDP-Coarse Cereals` are in place from October 2000. Under the schemes, assistance is provided for propagation of improved/hybrid production technology, integrated pest management, transfer of technology, farm implements, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, varietal replacement and production of certified seeds. Government released to the States Rs. 1189.20 crore in 2004-05, Rs. 819.15 crore in 2005-06 and Rs. 911.27 crore in 2006-07 under Macro Management of Agriculture.

To increase pulses production, Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize` (ISOPOM) is in place since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments for production of breeder/ foundation/ certified seeds, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and Minikits, infrastructure development and integrated pest management. Government released Rs. 176.28 crore in 2004-05, Rs. 212.14 crore in 2005-06 and Rs. 211.50 crore in 2006-07 under ISOPOM.

A minimum price guarantee is also provided to the foodgrains growers through the price support mechanism. For the crop year 2006-07, Government has announced an additional incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal over the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs 750 per quintal on procurement of wheat. Similarly, an additional incentive bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal over MSP was announced for paddy in 2006-07. Attractive MSPs have been announced by the Government for pulse crops also.